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K. Jane Williams
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: FTA-2019-006-TSO

Dear Acting Administrator Williams,

I am writing to urge your serious consideration of the City of Tucson / Sun Tran application for Federal Transit Administration funds for the FY 2019 Innovations in Transit Public Safety under the Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative Grant program. The City of Tucson and Sun Tran have applied for FTA funding for the Sun Tran Public Safety Initiative to address human trafficking, crime prevention and assaults against public transportation drivers throughout Tucson and Arizona. According to the US State Department Arizona is a major destination for human trafficking.

The activities developed by Sun Tran will impact public safety related to human trafficking, crime in and around the transit systems, and assaults on drivers. Sun Tran's program consists of the following activities:


Human trafficking awareness – A focus on building awareness of human trafficking by providing bus operator training and public education activities. These trainings will be offered to all transit drivers in Tucson, and will be made available for free to drivers for other systems such as AMTRAK, Greyhound, Flixbus, Cat Tran, Uber and Lyft throughout Tucson.

Assault prevention - Sun Tran will focus on reducing assaults against operators through employee training, public awareness and improved security.

Responding to the homeless population - Sun Tran will address reducing crime at transit facilities and collaborating with local organizations to reduce homeless populations at the transit centers.

By targeting a high trafficking area, Sun Tran's proposal will have positive impacts throughout the state of Arizona and the country. I urge full and fair consideration of this important proposal in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations.

Sincerely,


Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress